

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for destroying pathogens and spores such as *Bacillus anthracis* (anthrax bacteria) and *Bacillus magaterium* sp. (anthrax spores) in a chamber having a set of wall and a ceiling panel, comprising mounting ultraviolet lights, located in parallel about a center point where mail pieces will be placed for disinfection.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the wall/ceiling/floor surfaces are painted with aluminum or paneled with reflectant material.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein 18 fixtures, each containing 4 lamps putting out 13.8 watts of C-band ultraviolet light energy each, located 1 meter (39.3 inches) in parallel about a center where mail will be placed for disinfection.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein during the disinfection process, the average surface intensity will be at least 4690 $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$, sterilizing mail contaminated with anthrax spores within five (5) minutes or less.

2007-05-10 10:00:00